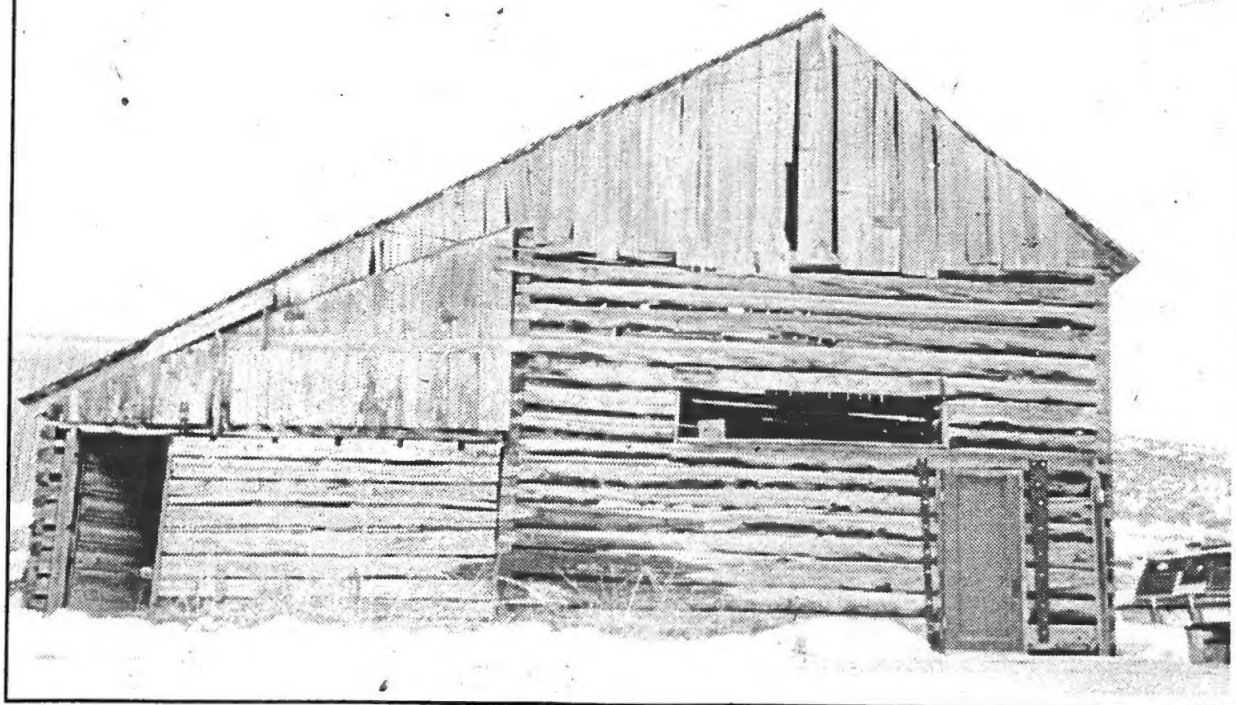


Feb 25



William Malachi Ryan Barn

This barn was built in the 1890s. William M. Ryan homesteaded this farm earlier. In about 1877, but it took time to get a home built for his family and get things planned out. Homer Ryan was the oldest boy, so when it came time to build the barn, he was in his early teens and helped his father in the building of the barn.

The barn is quite unique in several ways. Grandpa Ryan was very resourceful and quite creative: notice the dovetail notches, where the logs come together, without nails. The cuts were sloped two ways on each cut so they wouldn't be able to come apart either way.

Another unique thing was that this barn had two big doors on the roof that could be opened at hay harvest time and the hay was put in with nets and a derrick. The derrick horse would pull the net full of hay up and then one who was tending the derrick would swing a boon pole around with a net full of hay into the barn. It made it a lot easier and a lot less hay to move with a pitchfork.

The barn has stood up well for a little more than a hundred years. It is now being used to store wood for our wood stove. It makes a nice place to work for this purpose. Grandpa Ryan sold the farm to my

dad and he sold the farm to me. We love the land and its history.

William Ryan was quite creative in other lines as well. He invented a thing to keep the wagon box from working its way off from the wagon. He also invented the trailboard for the first mowing machines. He was also quite a writer. For some years, he wrote articles for The New York Journal, under the pen name "Wild Oats." He was a plasterer and also a salesman for Sydney Stevenson Co. who sold wagons. I am very proud of my heritage and this barn.

Address of the Ryan barn in Center Creek is 2800 So 4200 E. (Note: Writers: Lowell and Maryan Duke Ryan)



was born November 7, 1848 in Huntington, town of Borhornoise, East Canada, a daughter of George and Henriette Case Fraughton. She died in 1905 and William married first Mary Murdock Duke and Marion Stevenson Tracy-Goodle, both of whom preceded him in death. He died August 29, 1936 and is buried in the Heber Cemetery. The children of William and Flowerette are Sarah Violet, married to Henry McLean Aird; Elenor H., who died as an infant; Chloe Susette, married to Orvis J. Call; William Homer, married Sarah McDonald; John Ernest; George Franklin, married Jennett C. Jones; David Leslie, married Laverna Jeffs and then Ruth Lindstrom; Stanley Ackerman, who died as an infant and Alice Meda Eldora, married to Curtis Murdock.

William Ryan was baptized a member of the LDS Church at the age of nine, along with members of his family. When he was 14 he and his father started for Utah, arriving in Salt Lake on October 2, 1863 and then moving to Heber in the Spring of 1864. His marriage to Flowerette came five years later.

During the first seven or eight years of their married life, the Ryans made their home in Charleston and Heber and in Wanship, Summit County. In 1877 they moved from Wanship to Center Creek, where they homesteaded 160 acres of land in which they established what was to become their home until Mrs. Ryan's death in 1905.

The Ryan's first house on the homestead was a two-room log cabin built by Bill and his neighbors. Such items as nails were not available in the area at that time so the house was fastened together with wooden pegs. Later, Bill built the big house, as the family called it. It had six rooms and was indeed their pride and joy. It still stands as the home of Homer and Sarah

Ryan, who purchased the old homestead after the death of Flowerette in 1905.

Bill was a plasterer by trade but, since few of the houses built at that time were of the type that required plastering, his opportunities to ply his trade were extremely limited. He was therefore forced to look elsewhere for an opportunity to earn the money required to supply the family with the few necessities which could not be raised on the land. He found this opportunity by obtaining employment in the mines in Little Cottonwood Canyon and in Bingham during the winter months. Later, he worked as a salesman for the Sidney Stevens Implement Company.

Bill was an ardent lover of music and he found an outlet for this by playing his violin, which he somehow managed to acquire in spite of the comparative poverty in which the family lived. His playing furnished a large portion of the entertainment for the family. As the boys grew older, each learned to play an instrument, Homer the violin; Ern the mandolin; Frank the guitar and violin and Les the guitar. The inevitable result of this musical talent was the formation of an orchestra and, for years, they furnished the music for most of the dances in the area. Later, a piano was purchased for Meda and she joined the boys to complete the orchestra.

Perhaps the most unusual aspect of Bill's playing was to see him bowing the violin with his left hand and fingering it with his right.

Though Bill's formal education was extremely limited, he had a talent for learning readily from experience, observation and contact with people. His command of the language was quite remarkable and he possessed a real talent for writing. He was interested in all current issues of the times and, for several years, he wrote articles for the New York Journal under the pen name of "Wild Oats." Most of the articles were entitled "A Letter From Utah." They dealt with many of the problems confronting the settlers of a new territory.

Bill was a Blackhawk war veteran. He spent the last three or four years of his eventful career in Provo with his eldest daughter Violet. Here he passed away just a few months prior to his 88th birthday.

Flowerette was an excellent housekeeper and homemaker. Their first house, though furnished with only crude, home-made furnishings, was always kept spotlessly clean.